

I claim:

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- 1) A security system for a computer connected to a network of computers comprising:  
at least one security subsystem associated with said computer, said subsystem  
configured to detect attacks on said computer;  
and a secure link between said security subsystem and a master system enabling  
data communication therebetween; wherein  
said master system monitors said security subsystem through said secure link and  
registers information pertaining to attacks detected by said security subsystem.
- 2) The security system of Claim 1 further comprising a pseudo attack generator  
associated with said master system for generating attacks on said computer detectable by  
said security subsystem wherein said master system monitors said security subsystem by  
comparing said pseudo-attacks to said attacks detected by the security subsystem.
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- 3) The security system of Claim 1 wherein said master system is hierarchically  
independent from said security subsystem.
- 4) The security system of Claim 1 wherein said security subsystem is hierarchically  
subordinate to said master system.
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- 5) A network security system for a target network of computers comprising:  
at least one security subsystem associated with said target network, said  
subsystem configured to detect attacks on said network; and  
a secure link between said security subsystem and a master system enabling data  
communication therebetween; wherein  
said master system monitors said security subsystem through said secure link and  
registers information pertaining to the attacks detected by said security subsystem.

5 6) The network security system of Claim 5 wherein said master system is hierarchically independent from said security subsystem.

7) The network security system of Claim 5 wherein said security subsystem is hierarchically subordinate to said master system.

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5 establishing a secure link for the transfer of data between said security subsystem  
and a master system hierarchically independent from said security subsystem;  
monitoring the status of said security subsystem through said secure link; and  
registering information pertaining to the status of said security subsystem.

10 12) The method for monitoring the integrity of a security system of Claim 11 including  
the steps of:

connecting said master system and said target network separately to an open  
network of computers;

generating at least one pseudo-attack in said master system, said pseudo attack  
being detectable by said security subsystem;

generating in said master system a list of expected responses to said at least one  
pseudo-attack;

delivering said at least one pseudo-attack over said open network to said target  
network; and

20 comparing the response of said security subsystem to said pseudo-attack to the list  
of expected responses thereto.

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